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# Influence of the window thermal diffusivity on the silicon wafer temperature in a rapid thermal system

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## ABSTRACT

*The heating of a silicon wafer in a rapid thermal process is studied by numerical simulation. In the model, the equations of conservation of mass and energy are solved with the finite volume method and the determination of the solutions of the radiative transfer equation is based on the Monte-Carlo method. The results of numerical simulations, without optimization and in steady-state, show a close relationship between the thermal profiles of the silicon wafer and the ones of the quartz window. By introducing a high thermal diffusivity value for the window, the homogeneity of the wafer temperature is improved by 54%. The effect of heat storage by the quartz window on the temperature profile of the silicon substrate is hence well appreciated. Finally, a selection of materials is proposed for the implementation of the high diffusivity infrared window.*

## ***INTRODUCTION***

Rapid thermal processes (RTP) are widely used in the manufacturing of microelectronic components. They are implemented in key stages as annealing for ion diffusion, silicidation, oxidation, nitridation and more recently for thin film deposition [1]. Since the introduction of the first integrated circuits, the silicon technology is constantly striving to miniaturize semiconductor components to improve circuit performance. In the 1980s, the use of conventional furnaces started becoming an impediment to the miniaturization of microelectronic components because of their high inertia. To ensure thermal treatments of small durations, rapid thermal processes have emerged with heating provided by infrared lamps and with a reactor wall often maintained at low temperature. Nevertheless, the main challenge is to obtain a uniform temperature over the entire surface of the silicon wafer [2,3]. Although a significant improvement has been achieved since the inception of the process, this condition is indeed a major issue. It is indeed necessary to provide an identical treatment over the entire surface of the wafer so that the components satisfy the required quality criteria.

The study of the heating of the silicon wafer by numerical simulation enables to understand better the phenomena responsible for the observed temperature gradients [4-6]. Intuition and experience had been the only tools for many years. The present study utilizes the simulation approach to grasp better the relationship between the heating of infrared lamps and the thermal profile of the silicon substrate. In order to do it, a validated rapid thermal system model is considered [7]. The results of the first simulations have demonstrated that the differences in temperature of the quartz window have an influence on the temperature homogeneity of the silicon wafer [8,9]. We attempt in this study to explain the influence of the quartz window by reflecting on its thermal properties and their influence on the temperature distribution of the silicon wafer.

## ***MODELING***

The simulated rapid thermal system (**figure 1**) is of type AS-One 150 marketed by the company AnnealSys (Montpellier, France) [10]. It consists of a bank of eighteen infrared halogen lamps. The radiation they emit is mainly in the infrared wavelengths ranging from 0.3 to 4  $\mu\text{m}$  centered around 1  $\mu\text{m}$ . A quartz window seals the reactor at its top while transmitting the infrared radiation emitted by the lamps. The reactor is of cylindrical shape with a stainless steel wall in which a silicon substrate of 150 mm diameter (6 inches) reposes on three quartz pins. A water flow maintains the wall at a relatively low temperature of 300 K. A pumping system is operated to ensure low pressure in the reactor and a panel to control the gas inlet and outlet.

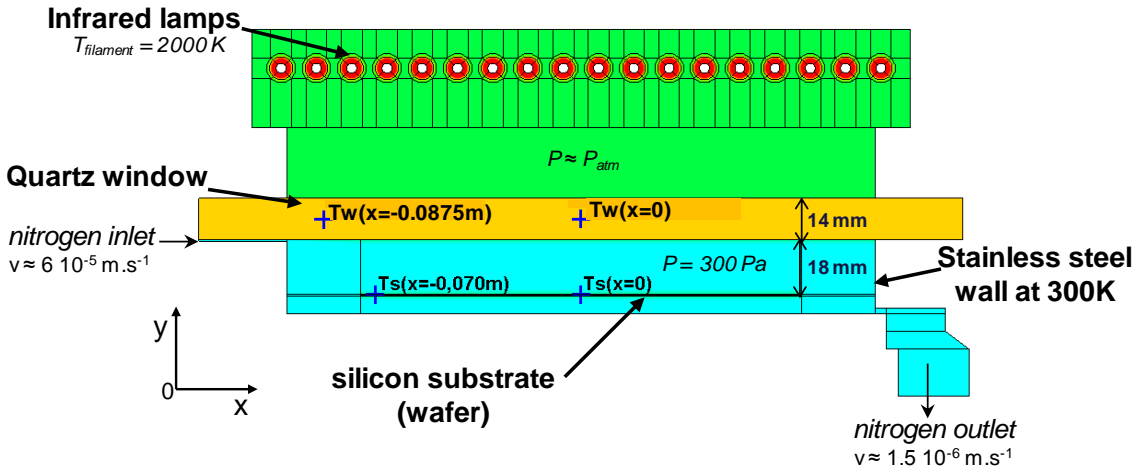


Figure 1 Model of the rapid thermal equipment AS-One 150.

The rapid thermal system is modeled (**figure 1**) in the case of annealing without flow of reactive gases. The reactor contains nitrogen at 300 Pa. Conservation equations are integrated over each control volume cell of the domain [11]. They enable to simulate numerically the flow (nitrogen in the reactor and lamps, air in the furnace) and the heat transfer, especially the radiative one. Flows are governed by the mass conservation of fluid:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \text{div}(\rho \vec{V}) = 0 \quad (1)$$

and by the Navier-Stokes equation which can be written by projection onto the x-axis:

$$\frac{\partial(\rho u)}{\partial t} + \text{div}(\rho \vec{V} u) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \text{div}(\mu \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} u) + S_{M_x} \quad (2)$$

The conservation equation of total enthalpy is solved:

$$\frac{\partial(\rho h_0)}{\partial t} + \text{div}(\rho \vec{V} h_0) = \text{div}(k \cdot \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} T) + \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} + \left[ \frac{\partial(u \tau_{xx})}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(u \tau_{yx})}{\partial y} \right] + \left[ \frac{\partial(v \tau_{xy})}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(v \tau_{yy})}{\partial y} \right] + S_h \quad (3)$$

where  $h_0$  designates the mass enthalpy:

$$h_0 = i + \frac{p}{\rho} + \frac{1}{2}(u^2 + v^2) \quad (4)$$

The radiative transfer equation is in steady-state [12]:

$$\Omega \cdot \overrightarrow{\text{grad}}(I(r, \Omega)) = -(\kappa + \sigma)I(r, \Omega) + \kappa I_b(r) + \frac{\sigma}{4\pi} \int_{\Omega'=4\pi} I(r, \Omega') \cdot \Phi(\Omega' \rightarrow \Omega) d\Omega' \quad (5)$$

where  $\Phi$  is the phase function of the energy transfer from the incoming direction  $\Omega'$  to the outgoing one  $\Omega$  and, the radiative intensity  $I(r, \Omega)$  at the surface is:

$$I(r, \Omega) = \varepsilon I_b(r) + \frac{\rho}{\pi} \int_{n \cdot \Omega'} |n \cdot \Omega'| I(r, \Omega') d\Omega' \quad (6)$$

For a medium that emits, absorbs and diffuses, the solving of equation (5) is realized by knowing the optical properties of surfaces [13,14] and by using the Monte-Carlo method [12,15]. To simulate a solution of equation (5), the fate of rays emitted by each surface within the system is followed. These emitted rays are traced until they are absorbed by the same or by some other surface. Each piece of surface is called "patch" and hence the radiative energy is exchanged by emission or absorption of radiations between patches. Radiative heat flux for a patch  $i$  is the result of the incident radiation from all the other patches  $j$  and of the one of its own emission. The discrete solution is then expressed as:

$$Q_i = q_i A_i = \sum_{j=1}^{N_s} (M_{ij} - \delta_{ij}\epsilon_j) \sigma T_j^4 A_j \quad (7)$$

The radiative heat flux  $Q_i$  is determined for each internal surface and its value is injected in the source term  $S_h$  of heat conservation equation (3). Hence, the absorbed and emitted radiative heat is taken into account when solving with the finite volume method, equation (3) for adjacent control volumes.

A bundle of photons emitted from a patch  $i$  undergoes several events before being absorbed by a surface: absorption, reflection (diffuse, specular or partially specular) and transmission. Each of these events depends on the wavelength of the beam, its direction of propagation, the orientation of patches encountered and their optical characteristics. The determination of radiative properties is carried out from the complex refractive index. The wavelength, the ray direction and its tracing are performed with the Monte-Carlo method. The randomness of the diffuse emission is reproduced by this method. In reality, we must restrict the number of photons sufficiently high enough to achieve acceptable statistics. These photons are representative of a group and their trajectories must be perfectly randomized, which justify the choice of this statistical method.

## NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS

Both a 2D and a 3D model of the RTP equipment have been realized. Their validity has been acquired by confronting in the steady-state the numerical simulation results to measurements of the wafer temperature for five electric power values supplied to the infrared lamps ranging from 10 to 30% [7,13]. The experimental wafer temperature profiles have been found in good agreement with the numerically calculated ones with a relative temperature difference inferior to 1% in most cases. An example of confrontation of temperature profiles is shown in **figure 2**. Similar results are obtained for the other lamp powers (see [7,13]). The experimental temperatures of the infrared lamp filaments evaluated from the Ohm law and the ones used in the numerical calculations match with a difference inferior to 5% for the 3D model and less than 9% for the 2D one. Equivalence between the 2D and 3D is then demonstrated.

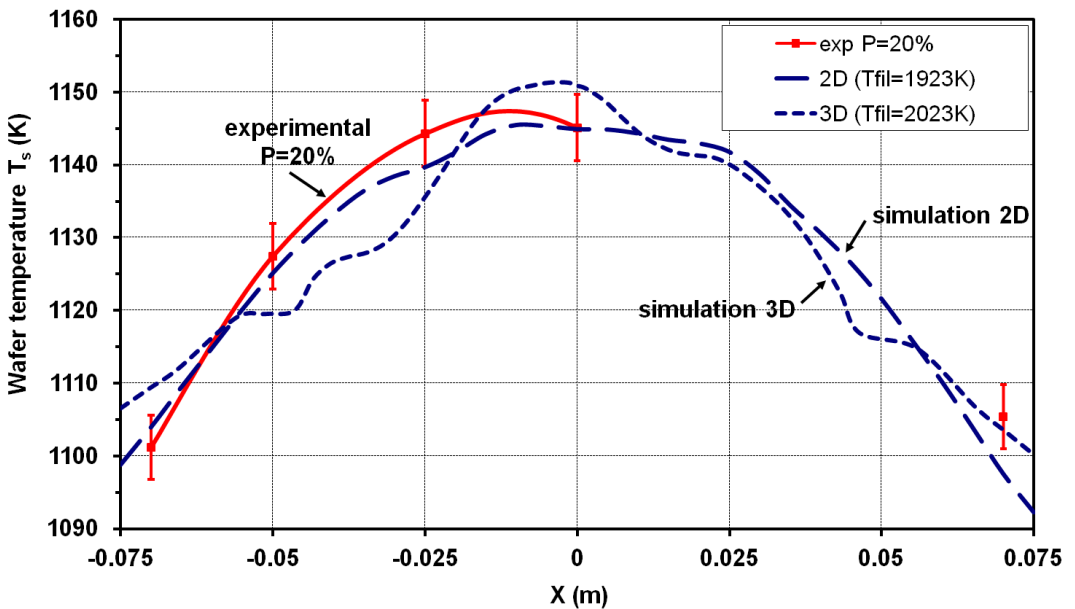
Therefore, 2D modeling is considered in this study. We arbitrarily chose to treat the most unfavorable case where the wafer heating by infrared lamps is not optimized in steady-state in order to have the highest differences. Thus, the sensitivity is maximal to appreciate the influence of the modified parameter. The calculations were made for the different lamp heating powers ranging from 10 to 30%. The numerical simulations were performed with the CFD'Ace code [16].

The temperature profiles of the silicon wafer and the quartz window obtained by numerical calculations with the validated model are superposed in **figure 3**. The curves for 15% power are given as an example. The cut is realized at the mid height of the quartz window and at the surface of the silicon wafer. Both the profiles are superposed in order to display the shape similarity. The length scale of the x-axis is the same for both the quartz window and the silicon wafer. Results with the same form are obtained for the other powers. We note that the temperature profiles of the wafer and of the quartz window are of similar shape with a strong decrease of the temperature towards the edge.

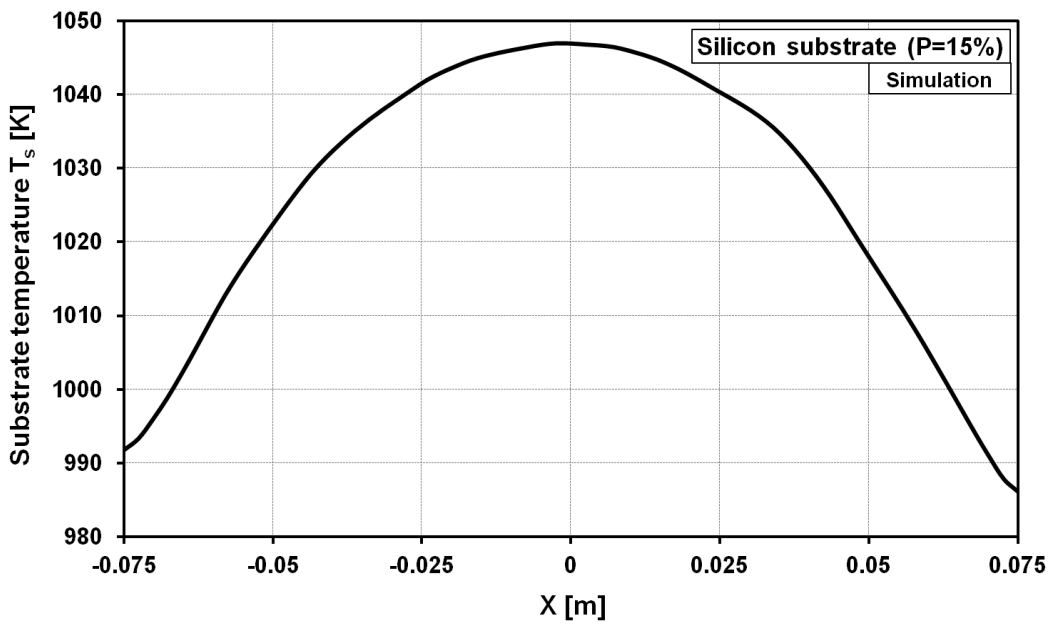
The temperatures of the quartz window and the silicon wafer match because they exchange radiative heat by absorption and by emission between the lower surface of the quartz window and the upper one of the silicon wafer as shown in studies [8] and [9]. The temperature of the quartz window diminishes towards its edge because of conductive heat loss. Hence, its emission towards the silicon wafer is more important at the center which increases the center-to-edge temperature difference of the latter. For the silicon wafer, the temperature distribution is preliminarily due to the absorption of radiation emitted by infrared lamp around 1  $\mu\text{m}$  all at the same power in cones and reflection on the reactor stainless steel wall and also by convection loss in the low pressure reactor.

To compare the temperature differences between the center and the edge of the wafer and the quartz window, the temperature was monitored for four points which are shown in **Figure 1**: at the center of the substrate  $T_s(x=0)$ , at 5 mm from its edge  $T_s(x=-0,070\text{m})$ , at the center of the quartz window  $T_{qw}(x=0)$  and close from its internal edge  $T_{qw}(x=-0,0875\text{m})$ . The temperature differences between the center and the edge of the substrate and of the quartz window, denoted  $\Delta T_s$  and  $\Delta T_{qw}$  have then the following expressions:

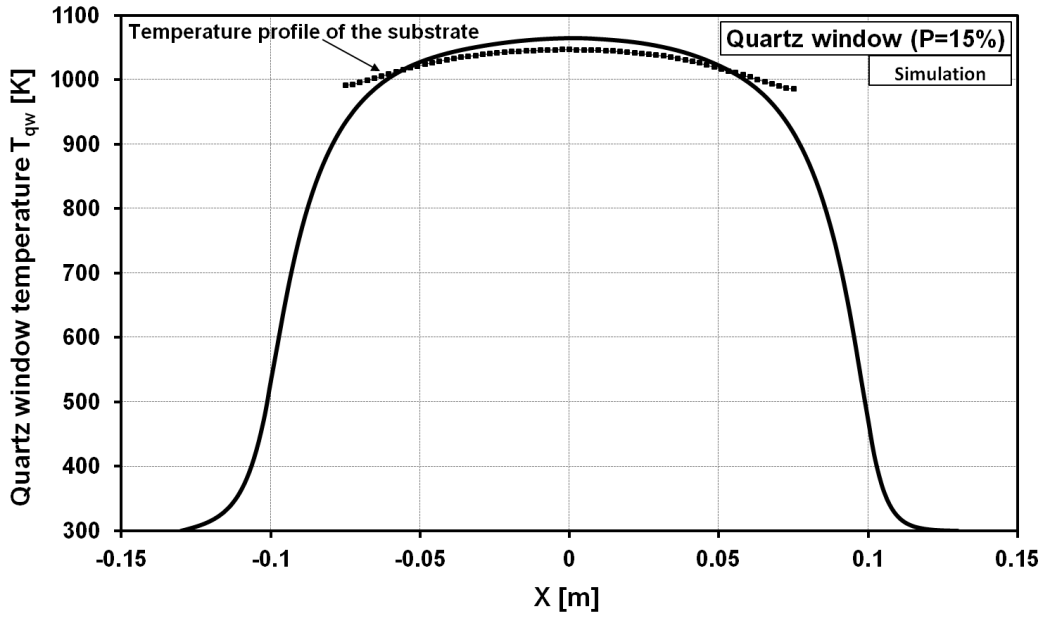
$$\begin{cases} \Delta T_s = T_s(x=0) - T_s(x=-0,070\text{m}) \\ \Delta T_{qw} = T_{qw}(x=0) - T_{qw}(x=-0,0875\text{m}) \end{cases} \quad (8)$$



**Figure 2** Example of agreement between the experimental wafer temperature profiles and the calculated ones for 20% lamp electrical power ( $T_{fil}$  is the lamp filament temperature, see [7,13]).



a)



b)

**Figure 3** Temperature profiles for a lamp electrical power of 15%  
a) of the silicon substrate  
b) of both the quartz window and the silicon substrate.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Center-to-edge temperature difference

**Figure 4** shows the temperature differences between the center and the edge of the wafer and of the quartz window versus the lamp heating power. Both the differences increase linearly according to the lamp heating power. The observation of this concomitance therefore emphasizes a close relationship between the distribution of the wafer temperature and the one of the quartz window. The question is to know whether by reducing the temperature difference of the quartz window, the substrate temperature will be uniform. We therefore sought this situation.

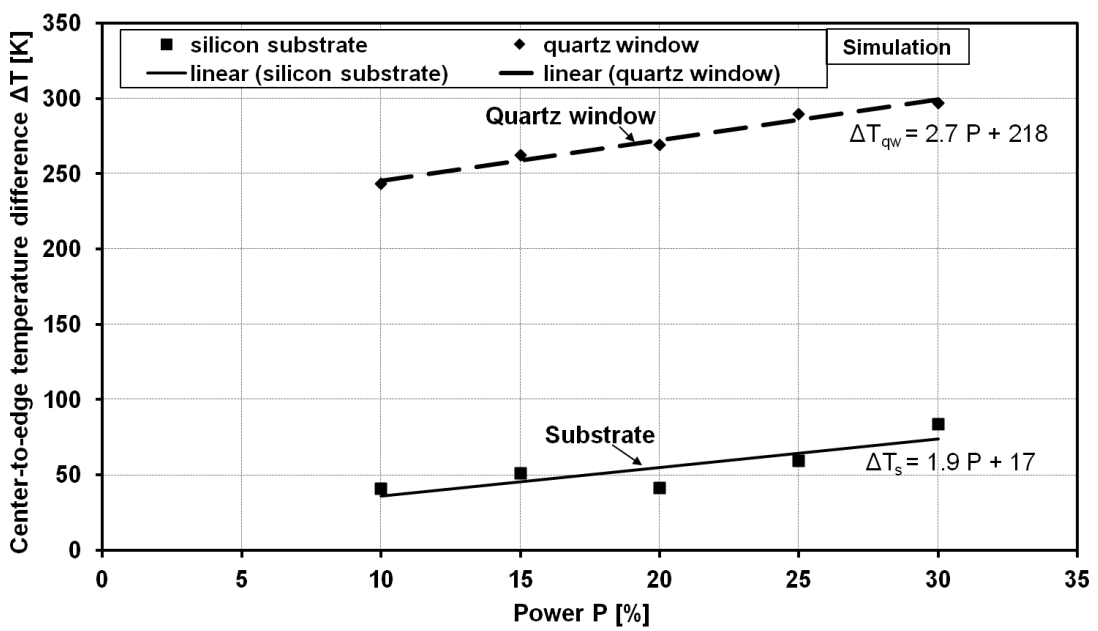


Figure 4 Center-to-edge temperature difference versus lamp electrical power.

### Modification of the thermal diffusivity

It has been observed when comparing the thermal profiles in previous section that there is a strong temperature gradient between the center and the edge of the quartz window. The same applies for the substrate. To reduce this gradient for the window, it is necessary to dissipate the heat. So we thought of implementing a dissipative window. A reflection is carried out for the thermal diffusivity of the window to be introduced in the model in order to get this feature:

$$a = \frac{k}{\rho \cdot c_p} \quad (9)$$

The constitutive and thermal properties of the quartz window are summarized in **table 1**. Orders of magnitude are given for these properties which vary with temperature [7]. The thermal conductivity of quartz is weak and its specific heat is elevated. So, its thermal diffusivity is low which means that the quartz window stores the heat. To dissipate the heat and minimize the overall temperature of the window and the strong gradient temperature, the thermal diffusivity must be increased. This way, the heat received by the window will be transferred instantaneously towards the cold wall.

To obtain a high value of diffusivity, great thermal conductivity of copper and very low specific heat of gold were considered in the simulations for the thermal properties of the window. The magnitudes of these values are displayed in **table 1** [17]. The density and the radiative properties (transmissivity of 95% around 1 μm) of the quartz are unchanged. Diffusivity is then multiplied by a factor of 1500.

|  | Quartz        | Dissipation    |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Density $\rho$ [kg.m <sup>-3</sup> ]                           | 2649          | 2649           |
| Specific heat $c_p$ [J.kg <sup>-1</sup> .K <sup>-1</sup> ]     | 1000          | 130 (gold)     |
| Thermal conductivity $k$ [W.m <sup>-1</sup> .K <sup>-1</sup> ] | 2             | 400 (copper)   |
| Diffusivity $a$ [m <sup>2</sup> .s <sup>-1</sup> ]             | $7.6.10^{-7}$ | $1.16.10^{-3}$ |

Table 1 Thermal properties of the window



Effect on temperature

Figure 5 shows an example of comparison of the temperature profiles of the substrate and of the window for 20% power. Similar results are obtained for the other powers. As desired, the overall temperature of the quartz window is in the magnitude of its initial temperature of 300 K. For the substrate, there is a lag down of its temperatures. The decrease of the overall temperature of the window causes a lessening of the wafer one. Indeed, the absorption-emission exchange of radiations in the infrared domain (beyond 4  $\mu\text{m}$ ) between the quartz window and the wafer [9] is limited because the temperature of the window is reduced. The high temperature quartz window behaves like an additional heat source due to the absorption and storage of infrared radiative heat beyond 4  $\mu\text{m}$ . Since the temperature of the dissipative window is low, its emission is negligible.

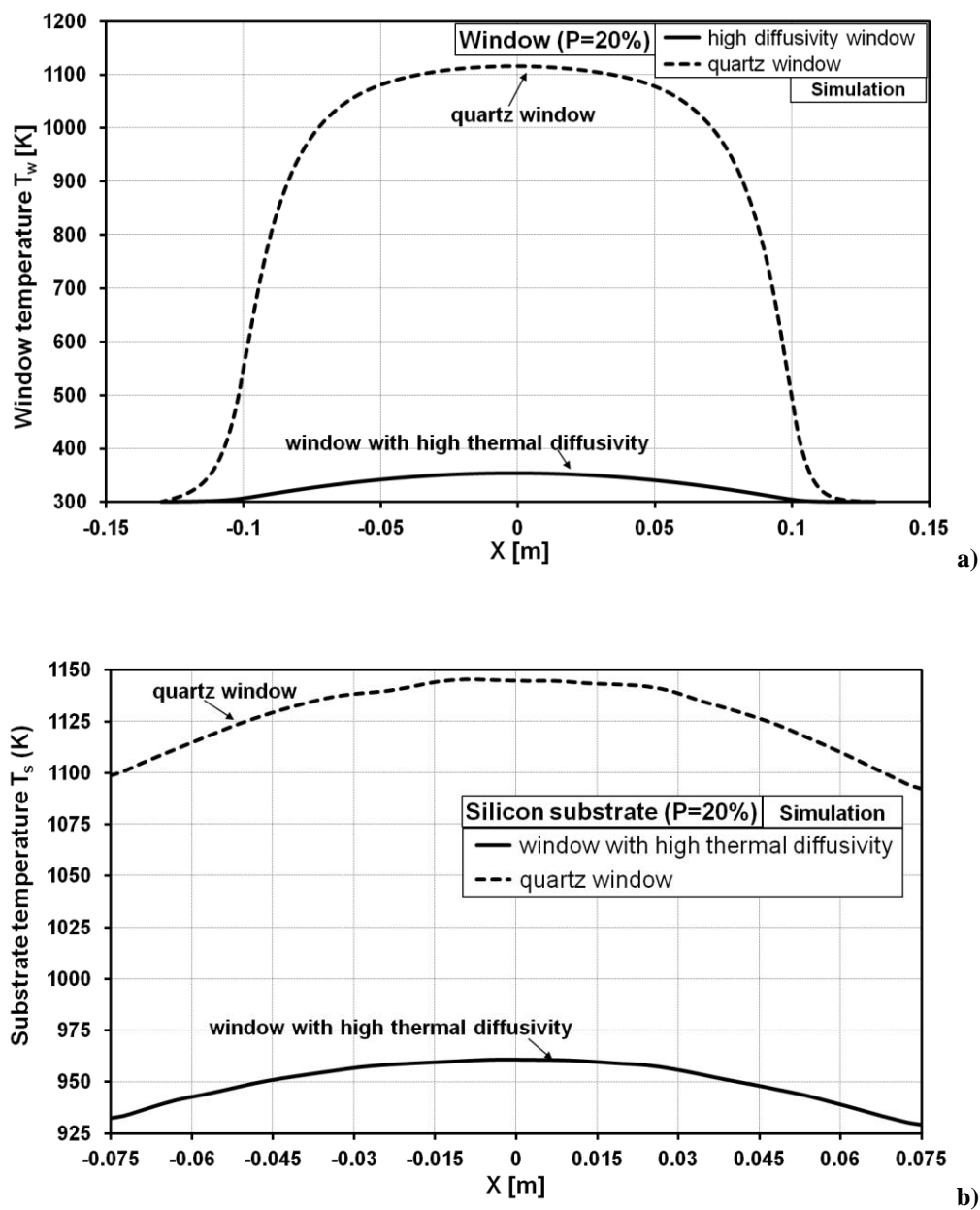


Figure 5 Temperature profile for 20% lamp electrical power of the window (a) and of the silicon wafer (b) with a high thermal diffusivity (modification) and for a low one (quartz) of the window.

As there is a shift of the temperature of the silicon wafer, it is interesting to compare the center-to-edge temperature difference  $\Delta T_s$  versus the center temperature of the substrate  $T_s(x = 0)$  obtained with the modified window and with the quartz one (**figure 6**).

To appreciate the effect of the high diffusivity window, the center-to-edge temperature of the window with high diffusivity is divided by the one of the quartz window to calculate the temperature homogeneity improvement:

$$reduction = 1 - \frac{\Delta T_s (high\ diffusivity\ window)}{\Delta T_s (quartz\ window)} \tag{10}$$

The reduction is calculated by taking into consideration the quartz affine equations obtained with the fittings in **figure 6**. For wafer temperature ranging 900–1300 K, the effect is calculated in **table 2**. The temperature difference is diminished by 54% with the high thermal diffusivity window. The temperature difference between the center and the edge of the window therefore affects the one of the substrate. However, as in the case of the absence of window [8], the temperature difference between the center and the edge of the wafer is not zero. The reduction of the nonuniformity of temperature is significant but not total with a heat dissipating window. The low thermal diffusivity therefore is not the only cause for nonuniformity, but we now know that it contributes to 54% of the difference in temperature of the substrate. The effect of the lamps which supply radiative heat in cones, all with the same electrical power, and the one of the reflective walls of the furnace and reactor which direct radiation onto the wafer have both a contribution of around 46%.

In addition, these results indicate the limit of different solutions implemented to cool the quartz window during heating processes. As examples, a double window with oil or water flow [18], or a cooling by compressed air or other gases [19,20] have been used. Arrangement in the window to select the absorbed radiation to avoid the overheating of the window was also proposed by Timans et al. [21] in the context of a patent. The maintaining of low temperature for the window, either by cooling or by ensuring that it does not absorb radiations, must be accompanied by a complementary way to obtain a uniform temperature at the surface of the silicon substrate. Different ideas may be suggested to raise the incident radiative heat flux at the edge of the silicon wafer to compensate the one received at its center. This outcome can be obtained for example by leveraging the control of the infrared lamps, by modifying the shape of the reactor wall or by changing the surface properties of the quartz window.

| Quartz window<br>$\Delta T_s$ [K] | High diffusivity window<br>$\Delta T_s$ [K] | $\Delta T_s$ (high diffusivity window) / $\Delta T_s$ (quartz window)<br>[%] | Red |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|-----|
| 35.19                             | 16.94                                       | 48%  | 5   |
| 44.1                              | 20.5  | 46%  | 5   |
| 53.01                             | 24.06                                       | 45%  | 5   |
| 61.92                             | 27.62                                       | 45%  | 5   |
| 70.83                             | 31.18                                       | 44%  | 5   |
| Average                           |   | 46%  | 5   |

Table 2 Effect of the high diffusivity window on the temperature homogeneity.

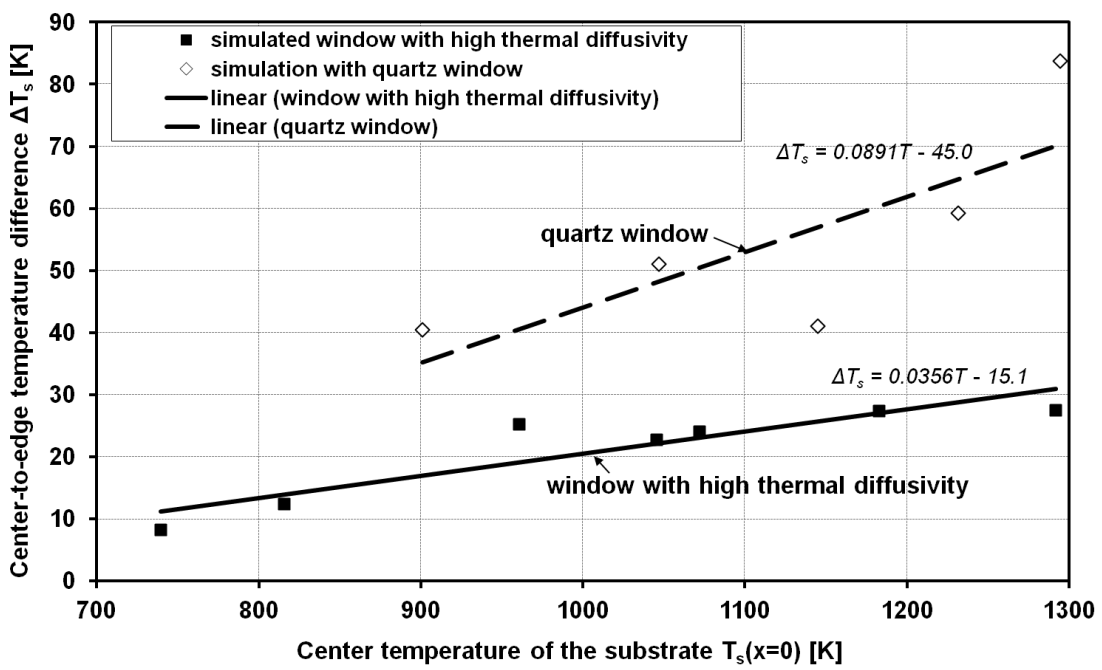


Figure 6 Center-to-edge temperature difference of the substrate according to the temperature at its center with the high thermal diffusivity (modification) and with a low one (quartz) for the window.

### Effect on gas flow

The gas flow concerns the air in the furnace which is at a pressure in the order of the atmospheric one and also the nitrogen in the reactor which is at low pressure (300 Pa). The temperature differences induce natural convection which can be well viewed with velocity vector field with the computational fluid dynamics analyzer.

In the furnace, the infrared halogen lamps are at high temperature in the range 1600–2100 K and the furnace reflector wall is at 573 K. Two convection cells are generated with a maximum velocity around  $0.117 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$  (see **figure 7** and **table 3.a**). The velocity is higher when there is the hot quartz window at the bottom because the density of hot air is lower. With the high diffusivity window, the air velocity is lower, maximum  $0.062 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$  (see **figure 8** and **table 3.b**), because in the lower part of the furnace the air is at a temperature around the ambient one (**figure 9**). Hence the convection occurs in the upper part of the furnace (**figure 8**).

In the reactor, the velocity is lower because the pressure inside the reactor is nether (300 Pa) contrary to the air pressure of the furnace which is in the magnitude of the atmospheric pressure. In the reactor, the nitrogen flows from the inlet (injection) to the outlet (extraction). Besides, the reactor wall is kept cool (300 K) but the silicon wafer and the quartz window are at high temperature (1000 K). So the temperature difference generates two convection cells but, contrary to the air in the furnace, the velocity is in the range  $0\text{--}1.8 \text{ mm.s}^{-1}$  when there is the hot quartz window (see **figure 7** and **table 3.a**). When the window dissipates the heat, the temperature at the top is low (**figure 9**), the strong temperature differences makes the velocity increase in the interval  $0\text{--}2.7 \text{ mm.s}^{-1}$  (see **figure 8** and **table 3.b**).

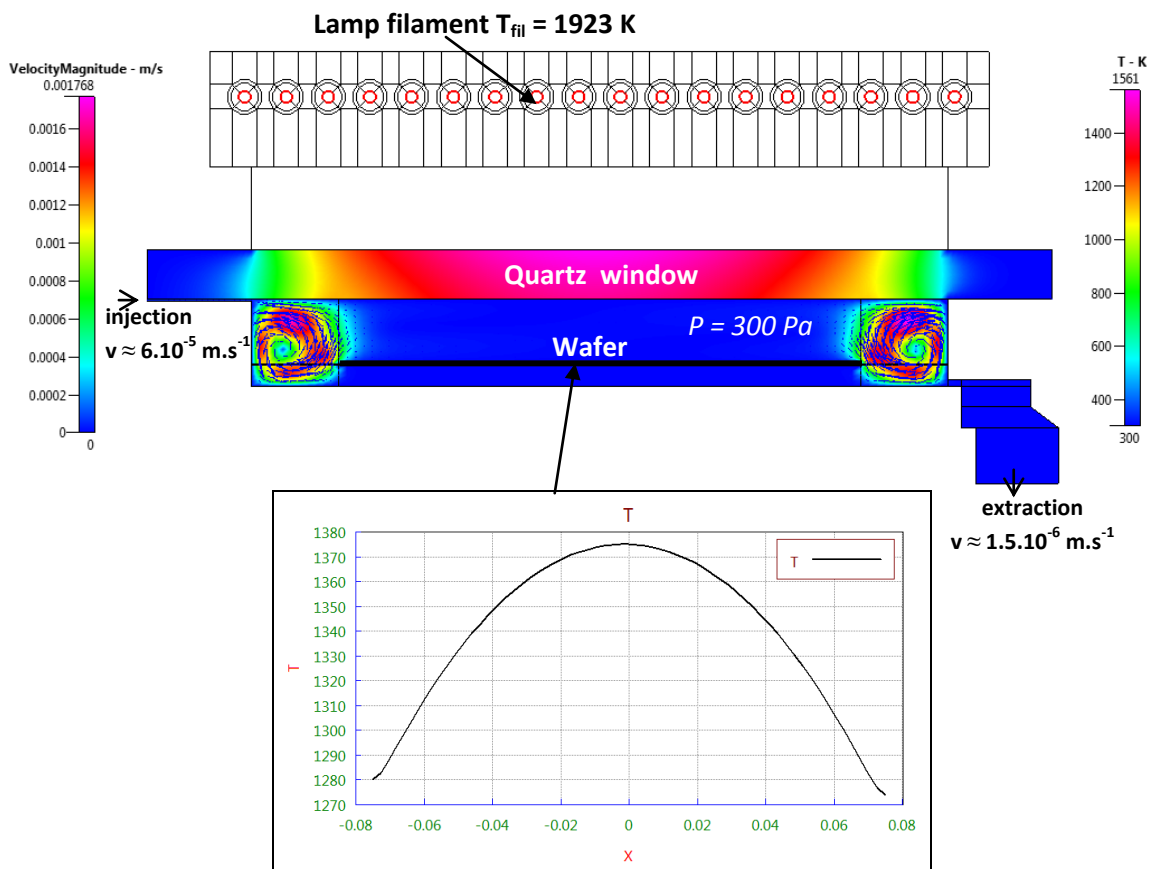
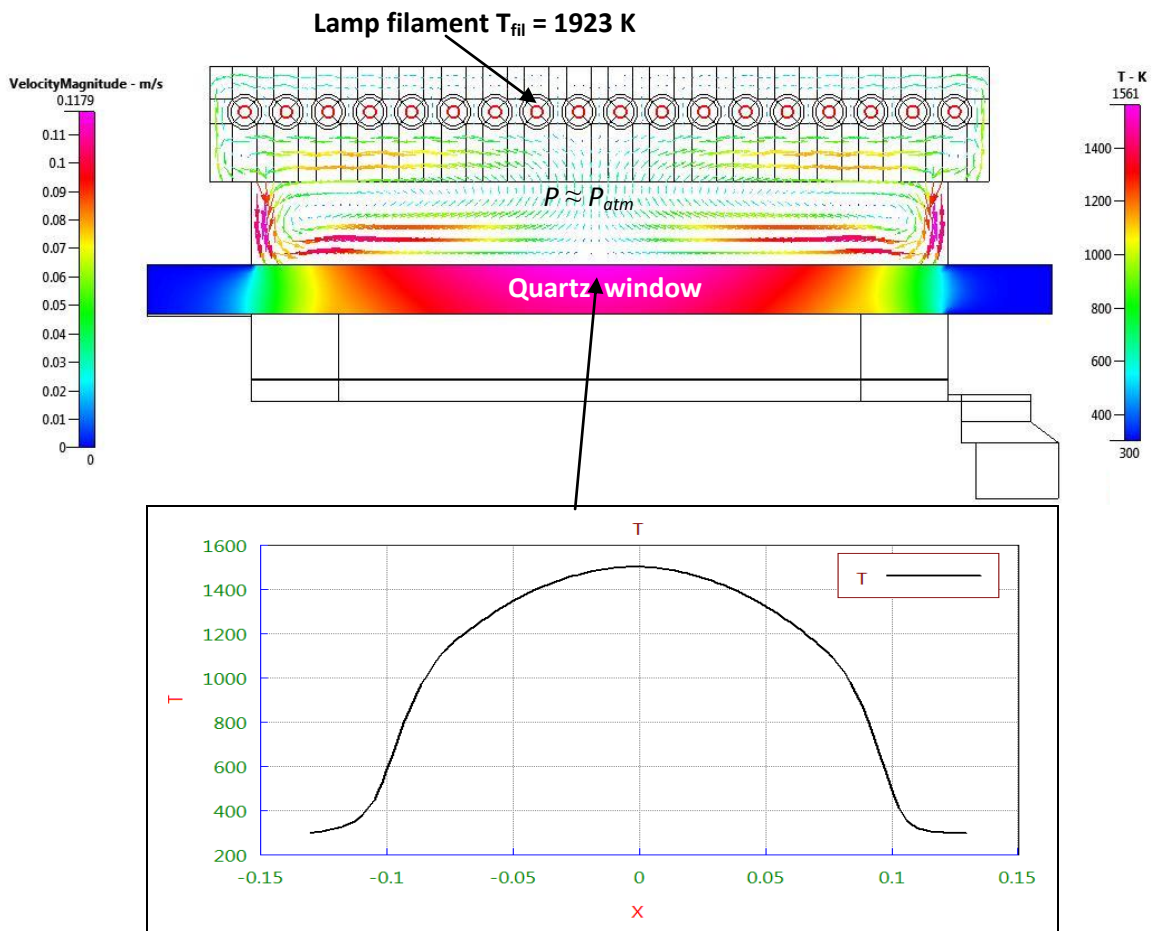
**Table 3 Effect of the gas flow on****a) the quartz window**

| Halogen lamps |                          |                       | Quartz window          |   |   |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---|---|
| Power [%]     | Filament temperature [K] | Wafer temperature [K] | Window temperature [K] | Furnace air velocity [m.s <sup>-1</sup> ] | Reactor nitrogen velocity [mm.s <sup>-1</sup> ] |
| 10            | 1653                     | [1047;1123]           | [300;1339]             | [0;0.1149]                                | [0;1.851]                                       |
| 15            | 1778                     | [1147;1237]           | [300;1417]             | [0;0.1161]                                | [0;1.819]                                       |
| 20            | 1923                     | [1274;1375]           | [300;1561]             | [0;0.1179]                                | [0;1.768]                                       |
| 25            | 2013                     | [1334;1423]           | [300;1639]             | [0;0.1177]                                | [0;1.735]                                       |
| 30            | 2043                     | [1308;1391]           | [300;1657]             | [0;0.1183]                                | [0;1.724]                                       |

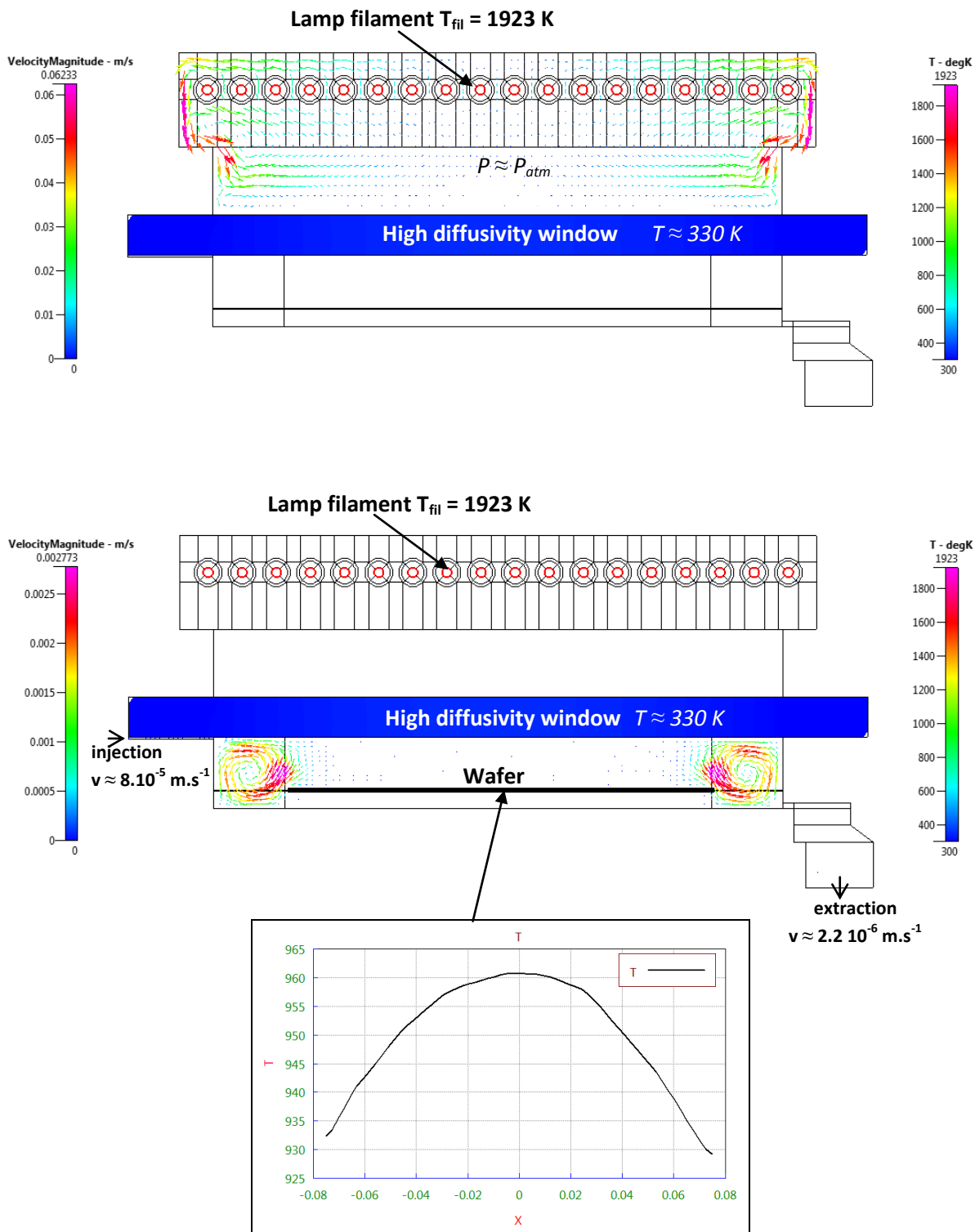
**b) the high diffusivity window**

| Halogen lamps |                          |                       | High diffusivity window |   |   |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| Power [%]     | Filament temperature [K] | Wafer temperature [K] | Window temperature [K]  | Furnace air velocity [m.s <sup>-1</sup> ] | Reactor nitrogen velocity [mm.s <sup>-1</sup> ] |
| 10            | 1653                     | [729.1;739.5]         | [300;329]               | [0;0.06154]                               | [0;2.635]                                       |
| 15            | 1778                     | [800.6;815.8]         | [300;337.6]             | [0;0.06226]                               | [0;2.635]                                       |
| 20            | 1923                     | [929.1;960.8]         | [300;355.2]             | [0;0.06233]                               | [0;2.772]                                       |
| 25            | 2013                     | [1015;1046]           | [300;365.7]             | [0;0.06218]                               | [0;2.852]                                       |
| 30            | 2043                     | [1041;1072]           | [300;369.2]             | [0;0.06219]                               | [0;2.876]                                       |

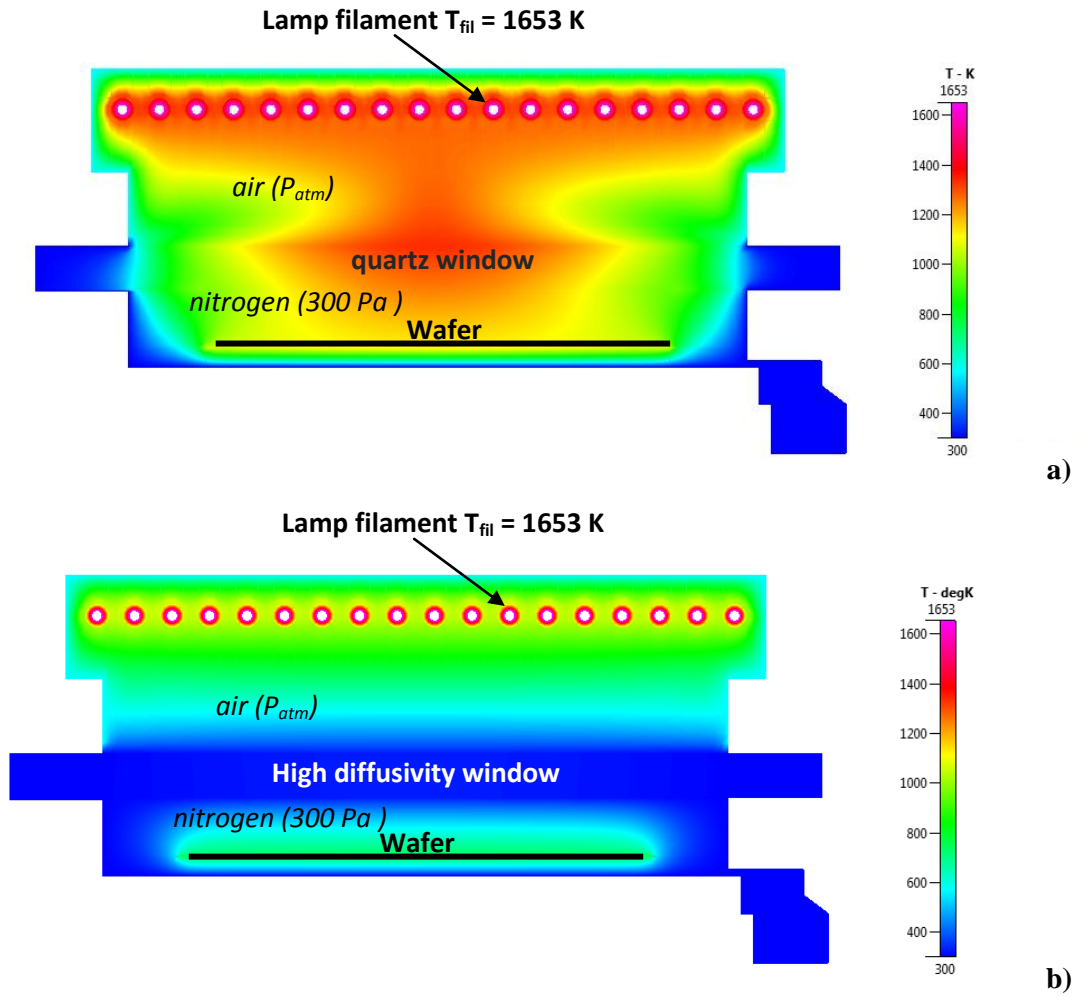
As can be seen in **figure 9**, the air in the lower part of the furnace and the nitrogen in the upper part of the reactor dissipate one part of the absorbed heat above 4  $\mu\text{m}$  by the quartz window. The air in the lower part of the furnace and the nitrogen in the upper part of the reactor are cooled by conduction with the high diffusivity window. The silicon wafer is slightly cooled by convection with the nitrogen in the reactor.



**Figure 7 Gas flow and window temperature with quartz window (20% lamp power).**



**Figure 8 Gas flow and window temperature with high diffusivity window (20% lamp power).**



**Figure 9** Temperature field for the case of 10% lamp power a) with quartz window b) with high diffusivity window.

### Implementation of the infrared window

The assumptions were made for the high diffusivity window to have reasoning on thermal properties. Nevertheless, the implementation of such a window can be achieved by various materials. To provide examples, one can refer to handbooks and manufacturers of infrared windows who propose hard materials with multifarious thermal and radiative properties [22-25]. We have selected in **table 4** some hard materials to support the used pressures with high transmissivity around the peak of emission of infrared lamps close to  $1\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ . Sufficient thickness has to be considered. We indicate the relative diffusivity regarding the quartz one,  $a/a_{\text{quartz}}$ . Gallium arsenide (GaAs), gallium lanthanum sulphide (GLS) and diamond cubic carbon windows permit much higher diffusivity in the same order of the hypothetic material considered but their transmissivities are less than 75%. The group of windows composed of sapphire window, spinel, magnesium fluoride ( $\text{MgF}_2$ ) and magnesium oxide ( $\text{MgO}$ ) have diffusivities between 12 and 17 times higher than the one of the quartz and transmissivities above 75%. Calcium fluoride ( $\text{CaF}_2$ ), rubidium chloride ( $\text{RbCl}$ ), magnesium fluoride ( $\text{MgF}_2$ ) have transmissivities above 90% like the quartz. Magnesium fluoride ( $\text{MgF}_2$ ) shows an interesting compromise with a diffusivity 14 times higher than the one of the quartz and a similar transmissivity of 90% at  $1\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ .

| Window                                 | Thermal conductivity k<br>[W.m <sup>-1</sup> .K <sup>-1</sup> ] | Specific heat<br>c <sub>p</sub><br>[J.kg <sup>-1</sup> .K <sup>-1</sup> ] | Density ρ<br>[kg.m <sup>-3</sup> ] | Diffusivity a<br>[m.s <sup>-2</sup> ] | Relative diffusivity<br>a/a <sub>quartz</sub> | Transmissivity<br>around 1 μm<br>[%] | Melting temperature<br>[°C] |
|--|---|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Quartz                                 | 2   | 1000  | 2649                               | 7.6 10 <sup>-7</sup>                  | 1.0   | 90                                   | 1710                        |
| Mica                                   | 0.7   | 210   | 3000                               | 1.1 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 1.5   | 80                                   | 600                         |
| Erbium fluoride (ErF <sub>3</sub> )    | 5.1   | 506   | 5940                               | 1.7 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 2.2   | 90                                   | 1493                        |
| Calcite                                | 5.526   | 852   | 2710                               | 2.4 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 3.2   | 90                                   | 825                         |
| Strontium fluoride (SrF <sub>2</sub> ) | 9.71  | 854   | 3180                               | 3.6 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 4.7   | 95                                   | 1360                        |
| Potassium bromide (KBr)                | 4.816   | 435   | 2753                               | 4.0 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 5.3   | 90                                   | 730                         |
| Titanium dioxide (TiO <sub>2</sub> )   | 12.5  | 711   | 4252                               | 4.1 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 5.5   | 70                                   | 1840                        |
| Aluminum nitride (AlN)                 | 12.3  | 781   | 3690                               | 4.3 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 5.7   | > 80                                 | 2150                        |
| Potassium chloride (KCl)               | 6.53  | 690   | 1990                               | 4.8 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 6.3   | 87.5                                 | 776                         |
| Mercury telluride (CdTe)               | 6.2   | 210   | 6200                               | 4.8 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 6.3   | 65                                   | 1092                        |
| Yttrium aluminum garnet (YAG)          | 12.9  | 590   | 4560                               | 4.8 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 6.4   | 85                                   | 1940                        |
| Cesium chloride (RbCl)                 | 7.6   | 418   | 2800                               | 6.5 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 8.6   | 92.5                                 | 715                         |
| Spinel                                 | 25  | 819,1   | 3580                               | 8.5 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 11,3  | 87,5                                 | 2135                        |
| Sapphire window                        | 27.21   | 763   | 3970                               | 9.0 10 <sup>-6</sup>                  | 11.9  | 85                                   | 2040                        |
| Selenide (ZnSe)                        | 18  | 339   | 5270                               | 1.0 10 <sup>-5</sup>                  | 13.3  | 70                                   | 1525                        |
| Magnesium fluoride (MgF <sub>2</sub> ) | 33.6  | 1003  | 3176.6                             | 1.1 10 <sup>-5</sup>                  | 14.0  | 90                                   | 1255                        |
| Cesium bromide (RbI)                   | 9.9   | 242   | 3550                               | 1.2 10 <sup>-5</sup>                  | 15.3  | 87.5                                 | 642                         |
| Sulphide (ZnS)                         | 27.2  | 515   | 4090                               | 1.3 10 <sup>-5</sup>                  | 17.1  | 75                                   | 1827                        |
| Magnesium oxide (MgO)                  | 42  | 877   | 3580                               | 1.3 10 <sup>-5</sup>                  | 17.7  | 85                                   | 2800                        |
| Gallium arsenide (GaAs)                | 48  | 360   | 5135                               | 2.6 10 <sup>-5</sup>                  | 34.4  | 55                                   | 1511                        |
| Gallium antimonide (GaSb)              | 0.43  | 0.54  | 4040                               | 2.0 10 <sup>-4</sup>                  | 261.1   | 75                                   | 830                         |
| As del case                            | 400   | 130   | 2649                               | 1.2 10 <sup>-3</sup>                  | 1538.5  | 90                                   | 1710                        |
| Diamond (C)                            | 2600  | 500   | 3510                               | 1.5 10 <sup>-3</sup>                  | 1962.2  | 70                                   | 3497                        |

Table 4 Potential materials for the window.



## ***CONCLUSIONS***

Numerical simulations of a rapid thermal system without optimization in steady-state led to a better understanding of the effect of the thermal properties of the window on the homogeneity of the temperature of a silicon wafer for constant heating power. A close relationship between the temperature distribution of the silicon substrate and the one of the quartz window is established when superposing their profiles. Temperature differences between the center and the edge of the substrate and the window augment linearly and parallelly according to the lamp heating power.

We therefore found a way to reduce the temperature of the quartz window in the model. As the thermal diffusivity of the quartz is low, calculations were performed with a much higher diffusivity so as to have a heat dissipative window. The center-to-edge temperature difference of the window is lessened. This effect is appreciated on the wafer temperature. In this case where the window is an excellent heat sink, the temperature difference between the center and the edge of the silicon substrate is reduced by 54%. The latter result corresponds to the best that can be obtained with a quartz window maintained at low temperature. This significant but not total decrease thus shows that the thermal behavior of the window is not the only cause for uneven temperature of the wafer. The obtention of a uniform temperature at the surface of the wafer requires associating a method to reduce the temperature of the window during the heating process and another one to balance the radiative heat flux received on the surface of the silicon substrate. To implement the high diffusivity window, materials having this thermal feature have been selected like magnesium oxide window having a diffusivity 14 times higher than the one of the quartz and a similar transmissivity of 90% at 1  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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## ***NOMENCLATURE***

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| $a$    | thermal diffusivity, $\text{m}^2.\text{s}^{-1}$              |
| $A$    | area of patch, $\text{m}^2$                                  |
| $c_p$  | specific heat, $\text{J.kg}^{-1}.\text{K}^{-1}$              |
| $h_0$  | total mass enthalpy, $\text{J.kg}^{-1}$                      |
| $i$    | mass internal energy, $\text{J.kg}^{-1}$                     |
| $I$    | radiative energy intensity, $\text{W.m}^{-2}.\text{sr}^{-1}$ |
| $k$    | thermal conductivity, $\text{W.m}^{-1}.\text{K}^{-1}$        |
| $M$    | exchange matrix  |
| $n$    | unit vector normal to surface                                |
| $p$    | static pressure, Pa  |
| $P$    | lamp electrical power, %                                     |
| $q$    | radiative heat flux density, $\text{W.m}^{-2}$               |
| $Q$    | radiative heat flux, W                                       |
| $r$    | position   |
| $S$    | source term  |
| $t$    | time, s  |
| $T$    | temperature, K   |
| $u,v$  | velocity components relative to $x, y$ , $\text{m.s}^{-1}$   |
| $V$    | velocity, $\text{m.s}^{-1}$                                  |
| $x, y$ | cartesian coordinates  |

## ***Greek symbols***

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| $\delta$      | Kronecker symbol  |
| $\varepsilon$ | emissivity  |
| $\kappa$      | absorption coefficient  |
| $\mu$         | dynamic viscosity, $\text{Pa.s}^{-1}$   |
| $\Omega$      | beam propagation direction, sr  |
| $\rho$        | density, $\text{kg.m}^{-3}$ or reflectivity   |
| $\sigma$      | diffusion coefficient or Stephan-Boltzmann constant, $5.669 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ W.m}^{-2}.\text{K}^{-4}$ |
| $\tau$        | viscous stress tensor, Pa   |
| $\phi$        | phase function  |

## ***Subscripts***

|       |                           |
|-------|---------------------------|
| $b$   | blackbody                 |
| $fil$ | lamp filament             |
| $h$   | heat                      |
| $M_x$ | x-momentum                |
| $qw$  | quartz window             |
| $w$   | window                    |
| $i,j$ | patch                     |
| $s$   | silicon substrate (wafer) |

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